5: Amer. Russ. Inst. (no date) 1950 . RG4 Estonia RG4

[Estonian Constitution 25 of November, 1947]

Chapter V. The Local Organs of State Power

631 Art. 52. The organs of state power in districts, cities, volosts, settlements and villages are the Soviets of Working People's Deputies.

Art. 53. The Soviets of Working People's Deputies of districts, cities, volosts, settlements and villages are elected by the working people of the respective districts, cities, volosts, settlements and villages for a term of two years.

Art. 54. The Soviets of Working People's Deputies of districts, cities, volosts, settlements and villages direct cultural, political and economic affairs on their territory, draw up the local budgets, direct the work of the organs of administration subordinate to them, ensure the maintenance of public order, assist in strengthening the defensive capacity of the country and ensure the observance of the laws and the protection of the rights of citizens.

Art. 55. The Soviets of Working People's Deputies adopt decisions and issue orders within the limits of the powers vested in them by the laws of the USSR and the Estonian SSR.

Art. 56. The executive and administrative organ of the Soviet of Working People's Deputies of districts, cities, volosts, settlements and villages is the Executive Committee elected by it, consisting of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, a Secretary and members.

[623] Art. 57. The executive and administrative organ of the Soviet of Working People's Deputies in small volosts, cities, settlements and villages is the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman and the Secretary elected by the Soviet of Working People's Deputies.

Art. 58. The Executive Committees of the Soviets of Working People's Deputies exercise guidance in cultural, political and economic affairs within their territory on the basis of decisions taken by the corresponding Soviets of Working People's Deputies and superior state organs.

Art. 59. Sessions of district Soviets of Working People's Deputies are convened by their Executive Committees not less than four times a year.

[623] Art. 60. Sessions of volost Soviets of Working People's Deputies are convened by their respective Executive Committees not less than six times a year.

Art. 61. Sessions of Soviets of Working People's Deputies of cities, settlements and villages are convened by their respective executive organs not less than once a month.

Art. 62. The Soviets of Working People's Deputies each elect a Chairman and a Secretary for the duration of their sessions to conduct the sittings of the sessions.

The Chairman of a village Soviet convenes the Soviet and conducts its sittings.